

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAI-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 CIEP-01 STR-01 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01

OMB-01 IO-10 NIC-01 /099 W
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R 031325Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6823

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EGEN EEC COMECON

SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS ON EC-CEMA MEETING IN MOSCOW

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REF: EC BRUSSELS 0908; MOSCOW 0660

1. INITIAL MOSCOW PRESS TREATMENT OF FIRST MEETING OF CEMA-EEC EXPERTS WHICH BEGINS HERE FEB 4 IS FAVORABLE, SELF-CONGRATULATORY AND SMUG.
 2. LEAD THEME IN TASS DESPATCH OF FEB 2 -- CONFIRMING COMMENT MADE BY SOURCE IN EC BRUSSELS REFTEL-- IS THAT GROUP WILL "DISCUSS PREPARATIONS FOR COMING MEETING BETWEEN SECRETARY OF CEMA FADEYEV AND PRESIDENT OF COMMISSION OF EC ORTOLI." SECONDARILY IT IS NOTED THAT POSSIBLE TRENDS AND FORMS OF RELATIONS BETWEEN EC AND CEMA WILL ALSO BE COVERED.
 3. TASS ARTICLE PLAYS UP MEETING AS RECOGNITION BY WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES--AT LAST-- THAT CEMA EXISTS. NOT LONG AGO EEC WENT ONLY SO FAR AS TO "CONSIDER RECOGNITION OF EEC BY INDIVIDUAL SOCIALIST COUNTRIES." BUT NOW, SITUATION HAS GREATLY CHANGED. CEMA HAS OBSERVER STATUS IN UN, AND ITS MEMBER COUNTRIES ACCOUNT FOR ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF WORLD INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT. HIGH GROWTH RATE AND STABILITY OF CEMA-COUNTRY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONTRASTS IMPRESSIVELY WITH ECONOMIC RECESSION IN WEST.
 4. TASS ALSO CLAIMS THAT CEMA NOW HAS EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH OTHER GROUPS, HAVING HAD CONTACTS WITH "MORE THAN TWENTY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS." ALSO QUOTED IS BREZHNEV STATEMENT OF 1972 THAT IT IS NECESSARY FOR EEC TO REFRAIN FROM DISCRIMINATION IF SUCCESSFUL BILATERAL COOPERATION IS TO BE ACHIEVED.
 5. COMMENT: THIS APPROACH IS, OF COURSE, NOT UNEXPECTED. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE DISTINCT UNDERTONES OF EXHILARATION OVER HAVING ACCOMPLISHED A MAJOR POLITICAL/PROPAGANDA OBJECTIVE ARE VERY APPARENT, AS THEY WERE WHEN THE UN ACCORDED OBSERVER STATUS TO CEMA LAST FALL. IN THIS CASE THE FACT THAT THE FIRST JOINT CONTACT IS BEING MADE THROUGH THE TRAVEL OF AN EEC DELEGATION TO MOSCOW, RATHER THAN A CEMA DELEGATION GOING TO BRUSSELS, PROVIDES AN ADDED DIVIDEND.
- MATLOCK

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